GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:119
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
QUALITY OF IMPORTED DRUGS
Singh Shri Ratan

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism put in place by the Government to ensure the quality and the efficacy of drugs being imported in the country;

(b) the number of cases of import of spurious and substandard drugs which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the action taken/proposed by the Government against the offenders; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to strengthen testing facilities for imported drugs in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)to(d):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 119 FOR 30.11.2012

(a) The quality, safety and efficacy of the drugs imported into the country are regulated under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder through a system of registration, import licence and checking of the consignments at the time of their import at the designated ports.

(b) The number of cases of import of spurious and substandard drugs which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and the current year are given below:

Year	Spurious	Sub-standard
2009-2010	7	35
2010-2011	Nil	35
2011-2012	Nil	34
Current year	Nil	14

(c) Drugs found spurious or substandard are not permitted to be released for import by the customs authorities. The cases of import of spurious drugs in 2009 − 2010 were investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and prosecutions launched on the basis of evidence available as per the provisions of the law.

(d) There are no exclusive testing laboratories for imported drugs. Setting up new laboratories and upgradation of existing laboratories is a continuous and ongoing process.